

# ***BOSQUE FARMS POLICE DEPARTMENT***

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## **Press Release**

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**Written by: Lt. David Gallegos, PIO**

### **Stolen Shotgun Returned To Texas Man After 20 Years**

Twenty years ago, Myrl Goodwin of Canyon, Texas, was in Albuquerque on a business trip, and during the night, someone broke into his car in a hotel parking lot and stole his shotgun. He reported the theft to the Albuquerque Police Department, returned to Texas, and thought the gun was gone forever. Goodwin was shocked recently when he received a telephone call from the Bosque Farms Police Department informing him the shotgun had been recovered and was still in perfect condition.

Det. Sgt. John Valdez said he was doing a routine foot patrol of the Bosque Farms flea market when he saw a man selling a shotgun. Valdez said the man only wanted \$500 for the gun, which raised his suspicions. Valdez said he ran the serial number through the National Crime Information Center (NCIC), which is maintained by the FBI, and discovered the shotgun had been reported stolen in Albuquerque in April of 1992. After much research, Valdez located Goodwin in Texas and informed him of the recovery.

Chief Greg Jones said Valdez was in the Amarillo area visiting family this week and he volunteered to drive to Canyon to return the shotgun to Goodwin. "Not only did Sgt. Valdez do a great job recovering the shotgun, he also went above and beyond his duty and personally returned the gun to Goodwin," Jones said.

Chief Jones said this case was a great example of the importance of documenting the serial numbers of valuable property. "If you make a stolen property report you'll be asked for the item's serial number so the property can be entered into NCIC," he said. "You never know when or how the police might find your stolen property," Jones said.

The investigation into how the flea market vendor came into possession of the shotgun continues.